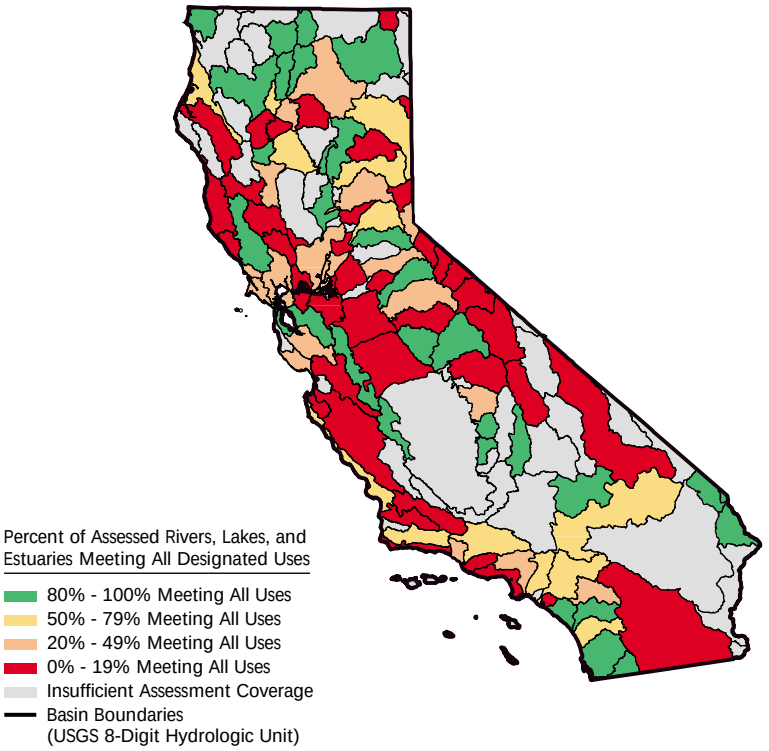
# California




For a copy of the California 1998 305(b) report, contact:

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## Surface Water Quality

Siltation, metals, nutrients, bacteria, and pesticides impair the most river miles in California. The leading sources of degradation in California's rivers and streams are agriculture, forestry activities, urban runoff and storm sewers, and municipal point sources. In lakes, siltation, metals, and nutrients are the most common pollutants. Hydrologic and habitat modifications, along with urban runoff/storm sewers, construction, highway maintenance and runoff, and atmospheric deposition pose the greatest threat to lake water quality.

Metals, pesticides, PCBs, and priority organics are the most frequently identified pollutants in estuaries, harbors, and bays. Urban runoff and storm sewers are the leading source of pollution in California's coastal waters, followed by spills, agriculture, resource extraction, and septage disposal.

## Ground Water Quality

Salinity, total dissolved solids, and chlorides are the most frequently identified pollutants impairing use of ground water in California, followed by priority organic chemicals, nutrients, non-priority organic chemicals, and pesticides. Leading sources are septage disposal, agriculture, and dairies. Potential sources of ground water contamination include leaking underground storage tanks, septage disposal, agriculture, and industrial point sources.

## Programs to Restore Water Quality

Through California's stormwater permit program, two statewide general permits have been adopted addressing stormwater discharges associated with industrial activities. Dischargers are required to eliminate most nonstormwater discharges, develop a stormwater pollution prevention plan to identify and implement control measures to minimize pollutants in stormwater runoff, and monitor their discharges.

The State Water Resources Control Board and Regional Water Quality Control Boards are implementing a Watershed Management Initiative to better coordinate and

focus limited public and private resources to address both point and nonpoint source water quality problems especially in high-priority targeted watersheds.

## Programs to Assess Water Quality

California has developed a number of programs to monitor water quality in fresh, estuarine, and marine waters of the state. These include a Toxic Substances Monitoring Program that focuses on areas with known or suspected impairment; the Toxicity Testing Program for the identification of high-risk areas as well as the spatial and temporal extent of water quality problems and their causes and sources; an underground storage tank program to study the cleanup of leaking tanks; and volunteer monitoring.

Programs that focus on saltwater monitoring include the California State Mussel Watch Program to detect toxic substances in bays, harbors, and estuaries and the Bay Protection and Toxic Cleanup Program to identify toxic hot spots in enclosed bays and estuaries. California is also developing a comprehensive program for monitoring and reducing pollution in California's coastal zone.

– Not reported in a quantifiable format or unknown.
[a] A subset of California's designated uses appear in this figure. Refer to the state's 305(b) report for a full description of the state's uses.
[b] Includes nonperennial streams that dry up and do not flow all year.
[c] Includes bays and harbors.

Note: Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.

## Individual Use Support in California

| Designated Use[a] | Total Miles/Acres/Square Miles Assessed | Percent: Good (Fully Supporting) | Good (Threatened) | Fair (Partially Supporting) | Poor (Not Supporting) | Not Attainable |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Rivers and Streams (Total Miles = 211,513)[b]** | | | | | | |
| | 12,289 | 24 | 12 | 49 | 16 | - |
| | 8,075 | 29 | 9 | 59 | 2 | - |
| | 12,066 | 24 | 11 | 48 | 17 | - |
| **Lakes (Total Acres = 1,672,684)** | | | | | | |
| | 683,248 | 25 | 8 | 48 | 19 | - |
| | 490,343 | 28 | 12 | 35 | 26 | - |
| | 675,736 | 25 | 11 | 46 | 19 | - |
| **Estuaries (Total Square Miles = 1,008)[c]** | | | | | | |
| | 870 | 27 | <1 | 67 | 5 | - |
| | 880 | 30 | 2 | 65 | 3 | - |
| | 749 | 36 | 3 | 60 | 1 | - |
| | 785 | 34 | <1 | 65 | 1 | - |
| **Wetlands (Total Acres = 275,812)** | | | | | | |
| | 27,117 | 55 | 1 | 43 | <1 | - |
| | 338 | 51 | 0 | 0 | 49 | - |
| | 24,869 | 61 | 2 | 36 | 1 | - |